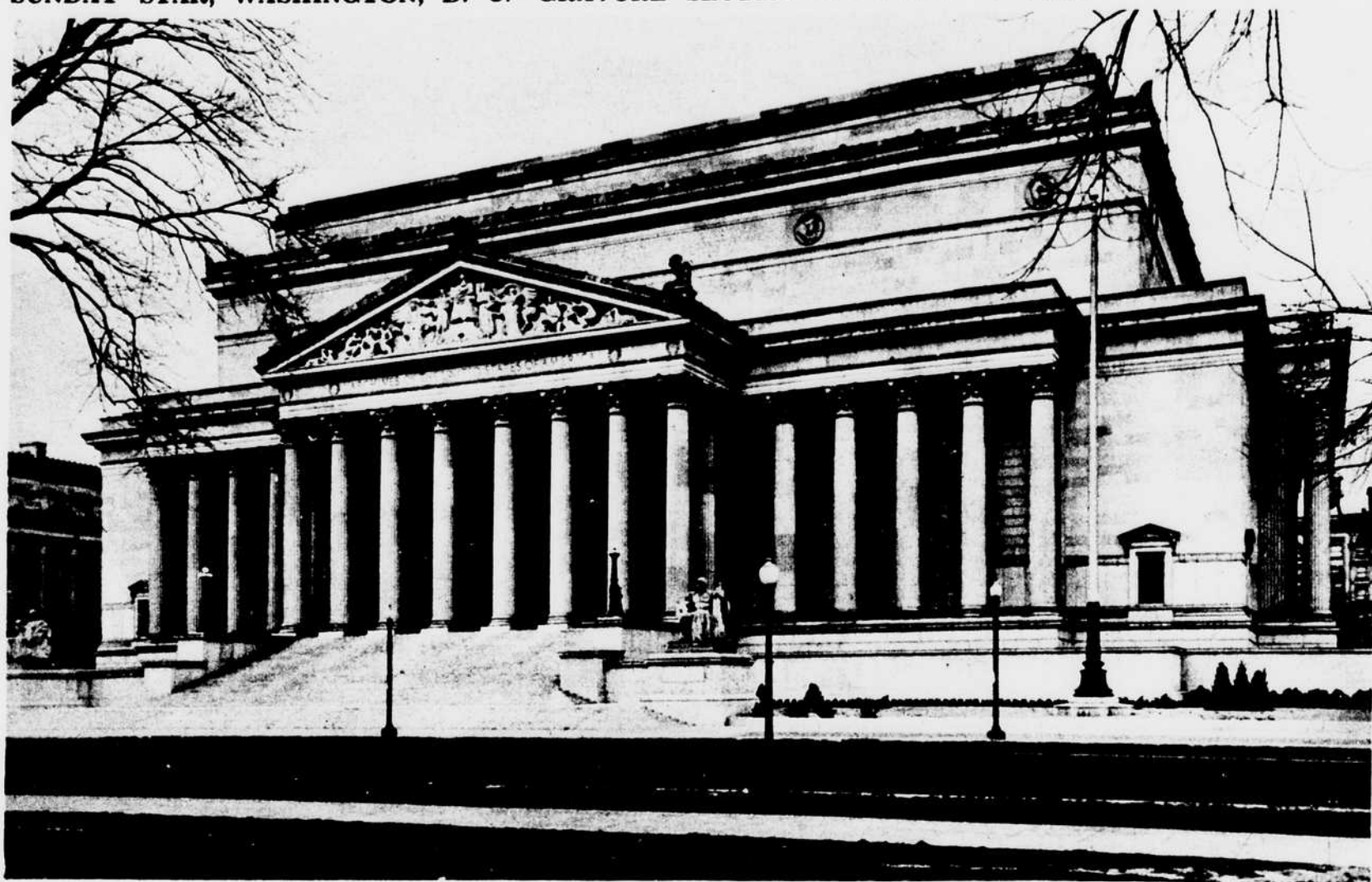


UNCLE SAM'S ATTIC

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUILDING, built at a cost of \$12,000,000 (exclusive of site) as a storage place for all of the documents of the United States which are no longer considered current, but which still have either governmental or historical value. These documents include war proclamations, amendments, treaties, codes and declarations that were once front-page news.



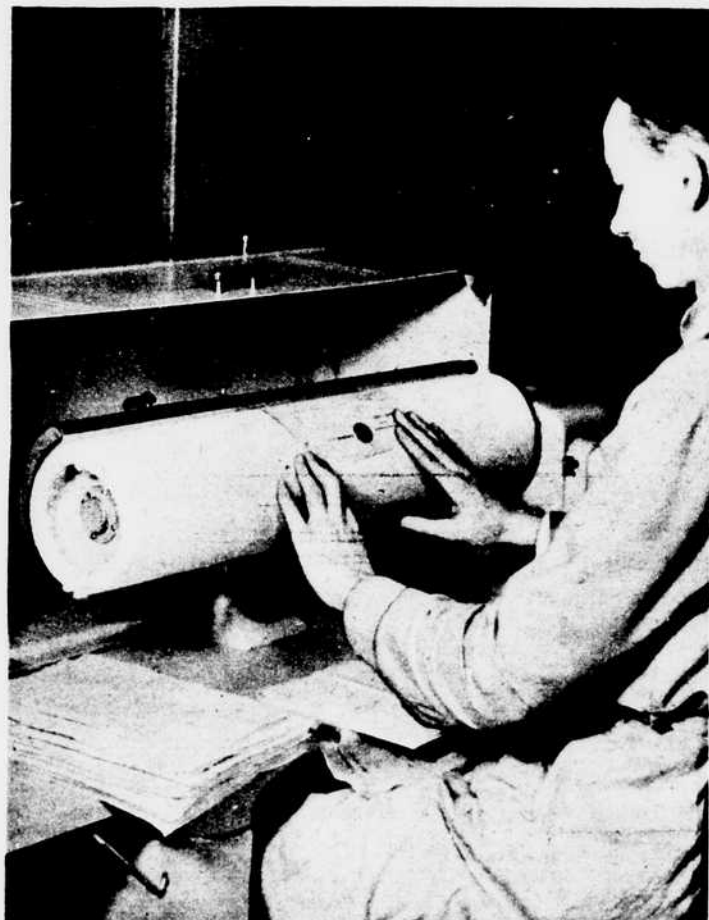
1 FUMIGATING CHAMBER in which all documents are first placed to kill any form of life (generally insects and mold) that may be on them. Until 1934, these important records were kept in cellars, old storage rooms and odd corners, where they were endangered by dampness, mold, moisture and fire.



2 DUSTING OFF OLD DOCUMENTS. A compressed air gun blows off the dust, which is carried through the screened openings into dust collectors. This follows fumigation.



3 INSPECTING THE DOCUMENTS sent to the archives department. Sometimes dozens of boxes produce only one or two papers that are worth keeping, but each one must be examined and listed. Congress orders worthless ones destroyed.



4 CLEANED AND PRESSED. After being cleaned thoroughly, the documents are subjected to moist air, then ironed in an ordinary ironing machine. This removes all wrinkles and folds and helps to restore the paper to its original condition.



5 PRESERVATION PROCESS. The document is now placed between two sheets of thin, transparent cellulose acetate (similar to cellophane) and subjected to heat and pressure in a hydraulic press. This process is called "laminating."



6 THE RESULT is a sheet of paper and acetate that is as permanent as it is possible to make any paper record. It is moisture proof and relatively free from attack by insect life. The process is cheap, rapid and permanent.

Register and Tribune Syndicate Photos.